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REMARKS

The present application includes claims 34-62. Claims 34, 44 and 49 were amended. Claim 62 is new. Claim 16 and the amendment to claim 52 find support at least in Fig. 13 and the other figures of the application.

Claims 34-61 were rejected based on the non-statutory double patenting rejection. A terminal disclaimer is filed herewith to overcome the rejection.

Claims 34-61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito et al. (US patent 4,036,217), in view of Longini (US patent 3,608,543).

Claim 34 was amended to require that the multi-element probe includes at least two rows and two columns of sensing elements. This limitation is supported by various figures of the application. Claim 52 was amended to require that the probe has at least 16 elements.

Neither of Longini or Ito teaches or suggests using a multi-element probe of more than two elements and therefore does not teach or suggest the limitations of claims 34 and 52.

Claim 44 was placed in independent form. Claim 44 requires generating an impedance map of the region responsive to the acquired signals and determining a single value of an impedance measure of the breast region for a region of pixels of the impedance map.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of unpatentability with respect to claim 44 since neither of the cited references teaches generating an impedance map of a region. The Examiner's statement that it would be obvious to map a region and generate a pixel impedance map is irrelevant to the patentability of claim 44 since it does not provide any suggestion to determine an impedance map and certainly none to providing a single value based on an impedance map. Thus, the reference cited is silent with respect of these two elements of the claim.

The dependent claims are allowable at least by virtue of their parent claims.

In view of the above remarks, applicants submit that the claims are patentable over the prior art. Allowance of the application is respectfully awaited. If, however, the Examiner is not convinced and the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation may forward the present application toward allowance, applicants

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respectfully request that the Examiner call the undersigned at 1 (877) 428-5468. Please note that this is a direct *toll free* number in the US that is answered in the undersigned's Israel office. Israel is 7 hours ahead of Washington.

Respectfully submitted,
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